METRO / A19

Police say oil tanker explosion in Manila accidental

BUSINESS / B1

Peso climbs for 2nd straight day, closes at 41.18 vs dollar

NEWS / A11

SC rules ex-UP student regent goes to trial for estafa

ENTERTAINMENT / F1

PDI Man in Hollywood talks of the last time he saw Heath Ledger

World stocks up but fears of US recession linger

Iggy on GMA entourage of 86: It's lean, no junket

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Friday, January 25, 2008

US at Davos: From feared dynamo to wounded giant



Puno: Fine will do for libel

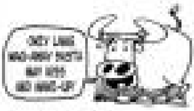
Prison for convicted journalists discouraged

JOURNALISTS CONSTANTLY testing the limits in the exercise of their profession may no longer be clapped behind bars in the event of a libel conviction.





GMA okays sacking of 20 political appointees



Cutting back on meat intake one good beef

Fight with spouse or it may kill you, says US study

Now, it's Palace accusing media of trial by publicity vs PNP

LOOK WHO'S TALKING.

Second
FRONTPAGE

EZ2: 7 28
SIX DIGIT: 6 1 4 5 6 3
SUERTRES: 1 5 5 | 6 6 5
SUPERLOTTO 6/49: 4 6 19 23 33 41
₱16,000,000.00

Gov't renews truce offer to Reds

But rebs reject condition for peace talks revival

THE GOVERNMENT has renewed an offer to communist rebels to accept a ceasefire deal as a step to restarting peace talks on ending a four-decade rebellion, Cabinet Secretary Ricardo Saludo said yesterday.

[illegible]

No conditions

[illegible]

WHAT'S INSIDE

PALACE: NO to big tax cuts /A6

SC RULES Sandigan can try ex-UP student regent for estafa /A11

PIA WANTS to leave it to docs to prescribe /A4

PROSECUTORS ask judge to stay in Trillanes trial /A5

Paperwork delays Manero's release

[illegible]




Spectacular Malls
Service Matters
SM
celebrating 50 years
of Serving Millions
BDO
Selfless Motivation
Structural Marvels


marie france
Emerging Victorious from a 31.5 to 27-inch Waist in Just
2 MONTHS
BEFORE
31.5"
waist
SO FAR...
27"
waist
Call 894-BODY (2639)



Cities rue shrinking income share

[illegible]



[illegible]

CHEAPER MEDICINES BILL

Pia wants to leave it to docs to prescribe

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

[illegible]

Sumilao tillers now willing to meet SMFI

[illegible]

Prosecutors want judge to stay in Trillanes trial



TRILLANES



Reporters barred

THE DAILY GOSPEL

GMA okays sacking of 20 political appointees



ERMITA: Verbal agreement with Mrs Arroyo



DAVID: Bureaucracy bloated with excess officials

President's prerogative

420,000 targeted

'No mass layoffs'

Moving to provinces

No silver parachute

Bigger protest Feb. 14

Gov't biggest employer

Cutting back on meat intake ...

Booming population

Chemical fertilizer saturation

Fight with spouse or it may kill you ...

Preliminary

French bank uncovers $7-B fraud by futures trader

Bound to happen

US at Davos: From feared dynamo to wounded giant

Like an emerging market

Knee-jerk reaction

Biggest risk

Rice's assurance

Another tumultuous day

Pneumonia

Iggy on GMA entourage of 86: It's lean, no junket

Not cheap

Savoy Hotel

On the sidelines

'Lean' delegation

Chalet

World stocks up but fears of US recession linger

Asian markets gainers

Support for bond insurers

Tumultuous day

'ECONOMY IS BOOMING'

Palace: No to big tax cuts

PAF to swap plane parts with Thailand

Puno: Fine will do for libel

[illegible]



[illegible]

Interim measure

[illegible]

Elastic circumstances

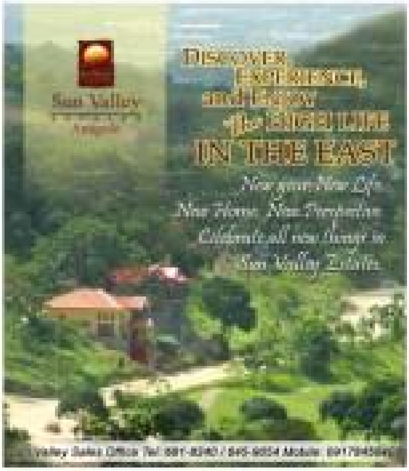
[illegible]

4 cases

[illegible]

Still a crime

[illegible]





IN THE KNOW

[illegible]





Now, it's Malacañang accusing media of trial by publicity vs PNP

[illegible]

Supreme Court case

[illegible]

No witch-hunt

[illegible]

Footage from closed circuit TV

[illegible]

SC rules Sandigan can try UP student regent for estafa

Ex-state college president faces raps



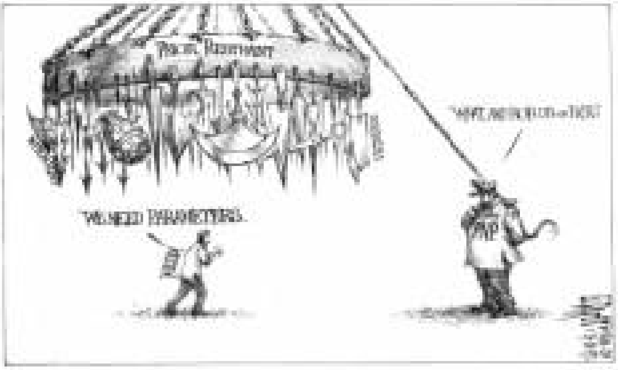


INQUIRER

OPINION

Constitutional menace

EDITORIAL



Too many crocodiles and other predators in RP

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

Finding the Filipino Einstein

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

Pakistan's Iranian shadow

World View



Karim Sadjadpour

PowerPoint

Pinoy Kasi



Michael L. Tan

For love of coffee

At Large



Rina Jimenez-David

Ads and history

Looking Back



Ambeth R. Ocampo

Republic of the Philippines
ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE SALE OF VARIOUS SUBTRANSMISSION LINES/ASSETS WITHIN THE FRANCHISE AREA OF DAGUPAN ELECTRIC CORPORATION (DECORP)

NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION (TRANSCO),
Applicant.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Medical volunteerism not just tourism

Lakas' selection process assailed



Across the NATION

P250M spent for airport with no design

LEGAZPI CITY—Arroyo administration officials had already spent P250 million and will have P600 million more to spend this year, and use up a total of at least P3.5 billion for an airport project here that does not yet have an engineering or architectural design, officials said.



A FARM in the area where the proposed SLIA is being planned.

'Very rare' plant found in Kanlaon Natural Park





Tesda workers start online bid vs Syjuco



GREEN CAMPUS

Another Cordilleran found murdered in Canada

Newsbriefs

Armed robbers raid village

Ex-cop hunted for jailbreak

Masbate shellfish ban lifted

P500,000 reward for judge's killer

Workers picket Korean firm for keeping them casuals

NEWS

DESPITE US ECONOMIC WOES

RP still sees strong demand for OFWs



Aplus METRO

'Oil tanker explosion an accident'

Manila fire, police officials dismiss allegations of terrorism, foul play



By Tina G. Santos and Allison W. Lopez

POLICE AND FIRE OFFICIALS RULED OUT THE TERrorism angle in the explosion of an oil tanker Wednesday night that left one person dead, another injured and several vehicles damaged in Sampaloc, Manila.

Pasig policemen arrest 2 suspected drug dealers

Quezon City extends to Jan. 31 deadline for tax payments

QUEZON CITY HAS EXTENDED TO JAN. 31 the deadline for the payment of business taxes and fees.

DID YOU KNOW

'Late' robbers missed P50M Land Bank delivery



RIVERSIDE DEMOLITION

High school teacher faces raps for allegedly hitting student

'Oil tanker explosion an accident'

Mechanical problems

'Spark started fire'

Mopping-up operations

MetroBriefs

Foul play eyed in worker's death

Waiter hurt in robbery

Del Rosario; 50

Wartime executions: S. Korea bares brutal past



Canada halted transfer of Afghan detainees due to torture concerns





The WORLD

Study: Bush told 935 lies about Iraq

WASHINGTON—US PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH AND his top officials ran roughshod over the truth in the run-up to the Iraq war lying a total of 935 times, a study released Wednesday found.



BUSH

Bypass better than stents for coronary disease

SPORTS

Juvic sizzles with 64, leads by 4

Que, 3 others share 2nd in rich TCC tilt



Payla, Tipon still the top Pinoy Olympic prospects





Pacquiao wary of faulty scoring



Darchinyan a tough foe for Gorres



Aces, Barako try to reach semis today

Dagmil may yet make it to Beijing



DAGMIL

By Marc Anthony Reyes

SPORTSWATCH

'Search for GM' chess slated

Checkmate enrolment up

'Super Sunday' highlights 26-leg Milo Marathon sked



Payla, Tipon still the top Olympic prospects

Sharapova, Ivanovic to dispute title





Konica-Minolta Pro-Am starts March 5 at Riviera



Tsonga pummels Nadal, gains Aussie Open final

Chang Hall of Famer

Woods, Mickelson back PGA Tour drug test plan



WOODS



MICKELSON

Pichay still NCFP prexy



PICHAY

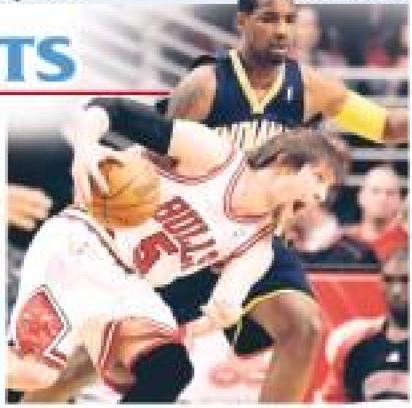


NEW PRODUCT:

40 entries remain unbeaten in SJC Int'l 8-cock tourney

SPORTS

Speed demons renew quest for glory



Raptors rally to stun Celts

Ramirez raps leaders of unproductive NSAs

POC seeks fair judging

BUSINESS

Editor Raul G. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma



Gov't wants VAT on oil to fund health care

DOF eyes ways to ease consumers' tax, fuel burdens

THE GOVERNMENT WANTS TO CHANNEL THE PROCEEDS from the VAT on oil to public services, like giving poor families Philhealth coverage, and granting rice subsidies and fuel discounts to public utility drivers.

Peso climbs for second straight day, closes at 41.18

IN THIS ISSUE

- Market expected to shift to fixed-income investments /B6
- BSP seen to cut policy rate by 50 bps /B6

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET

Shares close 2.9% higher







FPHC eyes Meralco shares

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

FIRST PHILIPPINE HOLDINGS Corp. is keen on beefing up its stake in Manila Electric Co. by buying the government's 29-percent interest in the country's biggest electric utility.

The government plans to sell its shares in Meralco this year as part of efforts to plug the budget deficit.

FPHC said in documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission that it wanted to increase its stake in Meralco because it was bullish on the utility's prospects.

FPHC said Meralco was likely to improve its financial performance with the implementation of a new rate setting mechanism called Performance Based Rate.

The new rate-setting scheme sets incentives to motivate firms to reduce their costs and improve their operations, which should lead to higher profits for Meralco.

FPHC expressed its interest in the Meralco shares as government planned to raise P5 billion from the sale of preferred shares.

FPHC has been steadily increasing its shares in Meralco since last year and currently holds about 33.4 percent.

FPHC earlier bought the 40-percent share of its Spanish partner in First Philippine Union Fenosa, which owns 22.7 percent of Meralco.

FPHC also purchased late last year the 6.6-percent stake in Meralco of the Meralco Pension Fund, thus bringing its interest in Meralco to 33.4 percent.

In the toll road sector, meanwhile, FPHC was optimistic that its North Luzon Expressway (NLEx) business would benefit from the transformation of Clark and Subic into major logistics and transportation hubs.

FPHC said it planned to take advantage of the expected surge in traffic in these areas by increasing its shares in Manila North Tollways Corp. (MNTC), the operator of the 84-kilometer NLEx.

FPHC currently owns 34 percent of MNTC.

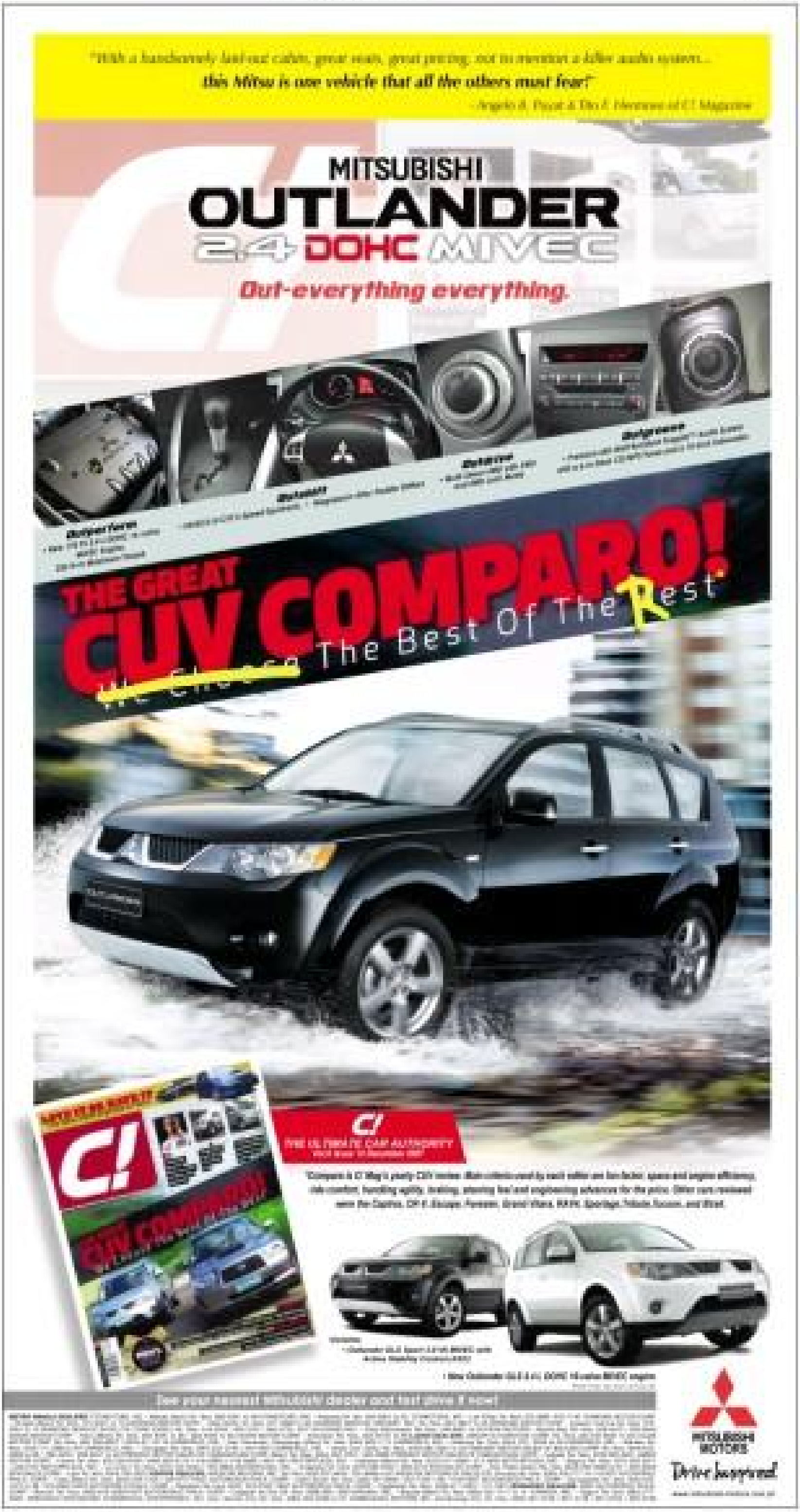
MNTC plans to construct a portion of a 2.2-kilometer road extension of the NLEx by the first quarter this year, which is estimated to cost P1.8 billion.





Basic tweaks offer terms

Makati lot sold



BSP seen to cut policy rate by 50 bps

By Doris C. Dumlao

BRITISH BANKING giant HSBC sees the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas chopping 50 basis points off its benchmark interest rate during its policy rate setting Thursday next week, following the surprise 75-basis point rate reduction by the US Federal Reserve.

[illegible]

Scripophily

Corporate Securities Info

Raul J. Palabrica

[illegible]

Basic info

[illegible]

Savings

[illegible]

For feedback, please write to [illegible]

Market expected to shift to fixed-income investments

TIMELINE

SSS-BDO deal

Gov't support, private sector initiative

COMMENTARY

DA PERFORMANCE AND BUDGET

Private sector initiatives

Lessons

Conclusion



Agri officials urge increase in coco sap output

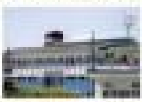
Gov't wants VAT on oil to fund ...

PCA sees great potential of coco sugar in health markets abroad

Shares close 2.9% higher

Peso climbs for second ...





BUSINESS Friday



MOST MALL owners are expanding this year.

RETAIL PROSPECTS

Mall rats get more choices in Year of the Rat

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINES may be having its share of uncertainties on the political front, but few would argue that the economy did well in 2007 with the Gross Domestic Product expected to grow by over 6 percent from the previous year.

[illegible]

GOINGS-ON

NBI clearance renewal now in malls

[illegible]

Entrepreneurs go into digital photo printing

[illegible]

Reading list for 2008, a disclosure, confession and an apology

MARKETING RX

Dr. Ned Roberto & Ardy Roberto

[illegible]

Disclosure

[illegible]

Confession

[illegible]

We're sorry!

[illegible]

SM Advantage continues to provide members with Philam Insurance benefits

The **SM Advantage Loyalty Program** – in partnership with **Philam Insurance** – continues to provide unique insurance benefits to its ever-increasing membership base which to date numbers over 3.5 million.

Coverage

Designed to protect SM Advantage members and their families against the uncertainties and financial difficulties brought about by accidents, the **Comprehensive Personal Accident Insurance** package includes:

- 24-hour Coverage, 365 days a year, worldwide
- Accidental Death Benefit
- Disability Benefits
- Unprovoked Murder and Assault Coverage
- Accidental Burial Expense Reimbursement
- No Medical Examination Required
- Entry age: 18 to 65 years old, renewable up to age 70
- Commercial Flying Coverage

Eligibility

Upon accumulation of 70 reward points, an SM Advantage member becomes automatically eligible for a P100,000 Philam Personal Accident Insurance Coverage for one year.

- Member must be 18 to 65 years old and have a minimum balance of 70 points
- Members who were not covered by the Insurance Program last year
- Members who did not opt out from the Insurance Program last year

A token payment of 20 points is automatically deducted from the qualified member's points balance.



P100,000 Personal Accident Insurance for one year... for only 20 points!



No registration needed. SM Advantage members who are between 18 to 65 and have accumulated 70 points are automatically eligible!

Insured SM Advantage Card Members whose policies have expired from the previous insurance campaign are also automatically qualified for this current program.

Philam Insurance will be more than delighted to hear from you! Call Philam's Hotline at **(02) 528-5202** for your inquiries.

SM Advantage members who do not wish to avail of the offer may opt out via any of the following methods:

SM Advantage members who are currently not eligible because they have less than 70 points will be included in the program when they reach the required points balance.

Review and consideration of eligibility of members will be done every 15th of each month and effectivity of coverage will commence on the 15th of the same month.

Exclusions

War or war-like operations, military or naval service, willful participation in any crime, self-inflicted injury or attempted suicide, osteoporosis, childbirth, miscarriage or any pregnancy-related complications, accident or loss while under the influence of alcohol or unprescribed drugs, professional sports.

Worldwide Network

Philam Insurance Company, Inc. is a member of Philam Group of Companies, which includes Philamlife and General Insurance, Philam Care, Philam Plans, Philam Bank, Philam Asset Management, Philam Properties and AIG Credit Card. With assets over Php49.6 Billion, Philam Insurance is considered as one of the largest in the industry.

American International Group (AIG) is a worldwide leader in financial services and the largest commercial insurer in the world. AIG has offices in over 130 countries and jurisdictions worldwide. AIG has been in the insurance business for 75 years and has assets worth over US$700 Billion. AIG is a member of the World Travel and Tourism Council. In the Philippines, AIG is represented by the Philam Group of Companies.

SM ADVANTAGE

PHILAM INSURANCE

AIG. A Member of American International Group, Inc.

LIFESTYLE

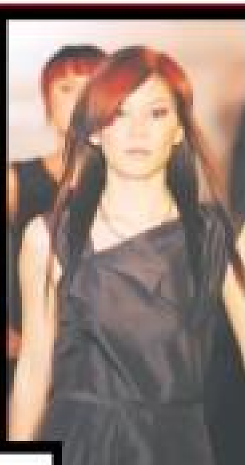
IN THIS ISSUE

Lagerfeld and Lacroix show their 2008 A/W haute couture collections in Paris /D2 & D4

BEAUTY



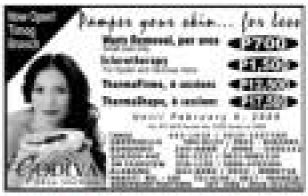




2008 hair trends

Tresses sport chic city vibes in shape, texture and color

A FASCINATION FOR ARCHITECTURE has inspired "Cityscapes," the 2008 haircut collection that celebrates Frandre Salon's 20th year in the industry.















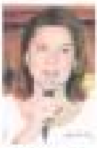


Another swell yearend party on Boracay















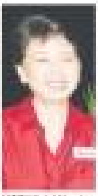


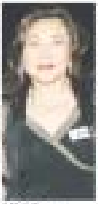
WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache



Holidays at Punta Fuego





New shop at G5

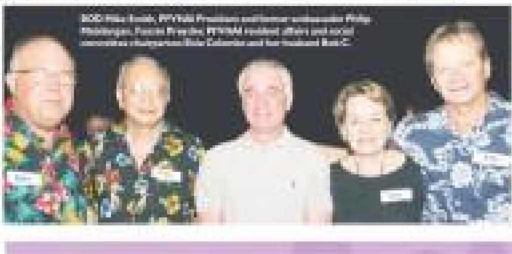


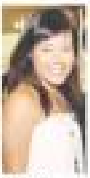














New skincare revelations

MAKEOVER 911
Kitsey Sulas



Opening the Christmas goodies sent our way was pretty fun. But I had fun road-testing them. What was great was that the fabulous finds are mostly reasonably priced.



VEET Hair Removal Cream with Almond Milk



NIVEA Lip Care Essential Night



VEET Ready-to-Use Wax Strips

GOINGS ON

Fund-raising grand ball



Flowers for your skin



EUROPEAN Flower: Sweetly seductive fragrance



ORIENTAL Flower: Subtle and exotic scent

LIFESTYLE

FASHION



A cult above the rest

FASHION BUZZ

Hot, haute, hot news!



Who's afraid of the big bad bag?



Melissa, Vivienne and Mary Jane





[illegible]

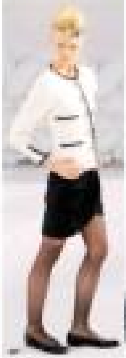




Tribute to a classic







[illegible]

Strength and elegance in time



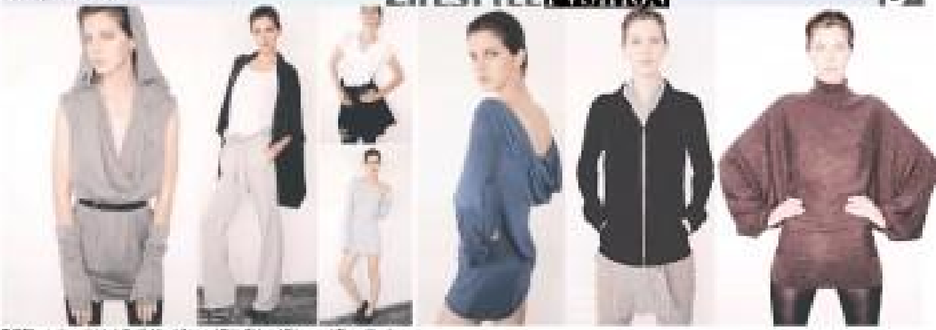
PORTOFINO Roman





BELLEVILLE

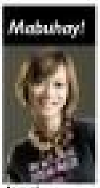
[illegible]



A cult above the rest

Theodore's is a new fashion landmark in Bonifacio High Street

Mabuhay!



Jenni Epperson



Large range









Tour de force from Lacroix

PARIS—CHRISTIAN LACROIX PULLED off an exuberant tour de force with his summer haute couture collection, which was a riot of color and brimming with genius in which to get noticed.

Lacroix does not dress shrinking violets and some chutzpah would be needed to carry off many of his creations. But every single number was a testament to the level of workmanship and perfection that is the hallmark of couture—from the precious fabrics used expressly to the lavish detail.

With the speed of a catwalk presentation, there was no time to take it all in. An ivory gold embroidered lace frothing out over a skirt, constellations of beading and passementerie on deep satin, geometric motifs and appliqued flowers down the front of a cropped jacket, a delicate silver flower on navy blue crepe—all flashed past in a whirl.

For his ballgowns he went for drama, long-line bodices cut close to the body billowing out into voluminous skirts in stiff faille or long flounced trains in silk chiffon. Sleeves, too, came big, leg-of-mutton or ballooned like overblown roses.

A hand-woven saffron wool coat dazzled with giant pompoms in bubblegum pink, day glo lime and orange, while sun-lit fake bougainvillea had flowery feather sleeves over an organza dress with coppery lace flounces.

Oversized black and white polka dots, gingham checks and silk chiffon hand-painted with broad brush strokes in sea greens and inky blue competed for attention.

Models had their hair pulled back into a long single plait entwined with artificial flowers and wore black and white striped shoes with ribbon ankle ties.

Givenchy

Riccardo Tisci's collection for Givenchy showcased couture gowns in second-skin stretch tulles of black leather or sequined ... with metal triangles and crystals, worn with big white blouses or tops with pre-embroidered cuffs and black jackets brightened up with gold.

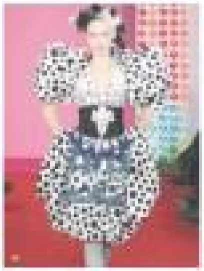
Other strong looks were highly structured, 18th-century inspired jackets and corsets constructed from layers of organza in gradations of white and poppy red.

His organza-fine little black dresses had pleats reinforced by white silk organza in



EXUBERANT creations by French fashion designer Christian Lacroix for his Spring/Summer 2008 collection presented in Paris.







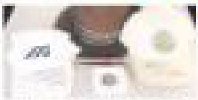
bags or boxes weighed down by smocking in pale yellow tulle.

Also showing was Italian Maurizio Galante, one of just two designers to recently gain official designation for his work in haute couture from the Chambre Syndicale, the French fashion body which lays down the rules.

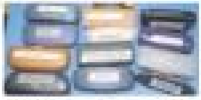
He went into a modest collection featuring skimpy asymmetric dresses in dreamy pastel chiffon, dramatic open capes in pleated silk organza and ultra-lightweight fashions in bands of tulle.

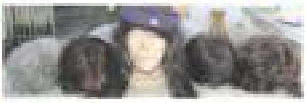
For a finale, his models twirled around to show off the shape of frocks cleverly constructed from layer upon layer of organza, paved silk organza, cut in triangles or half moons. AFP

LIVING Stars
Website: www.inquirer.net/entertainment
Editor: Emmie G. Velarde
[illegible]


HATS are gifts from Freddie Aguilar, FVR and Dolphy. Willie also has trademark Ramos cohiba cigar and Erap wristbands.




BRANDED eyewear like those worn by the people he impersonates.




WIGS complete the looks," says the master impersonator. His trophy collection includes the Honor Award that he accepted for the Filipino people.

Willie Nep unmasked


POSTERS of past shows

By Marinel R. Cruz
Photos by Ryan Lim

IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO LOOK like his subjects; he has to behave like them.

And so master impersonator Willie Nepomuceno makes sure he meets everyone whose character he [illegible].

"I observe their behavior. I even research their background," Willie told Living Stars during our visit to his [illegible] City home.

Willie is known for his impersonations of famous political figures like the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, former presidents Fidel Ramos and Joseph Estrada, and the late presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr. He has copied senators Ping Lacson and Gringo Honasan, and comedians Dolphy and German Moreno.

Elvis Presley, Bruce Lee, Sammy Davis Jr., Frank Sinatra and John Lennon? They're on the list as well.

Willie resorts to prosthetics and props when necessary. "They are essential to effective impersonation," he says of his wigs, costumes and make-up.

COSTUMES

"These pieces of barong Tagalog were owned by Marcos. His daughter Imee had them made for the snap election campaign. She returned them to the designer for [illegible]. When the Marcoses went on exile in Hawaii, the designer gave the barongs to me." (Willie also has costumes inspired by Cardinal Sin, Ramos, Honasan, Lacson and Mayor Alfredo Lim.)

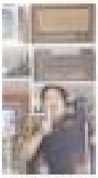
EYEWEAR

"I buy the exact same brand that my subjects use. If I see them wearing a different brand, nakikopya ako—these are expensive brands, you know." (He showed us eyewear cases with labels: Salonga, Cheeze, FVR, Dolphy, Gringo, Erap and Elvis.)

HATS

"This is one of Freddie Aguilar's oldest hats. He autographed it before giving it to me. The baseball cap is from Dolphy. The dedication says, 'To my main Bro.' I guested in his show and we were in [illegible].

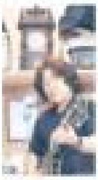
The other cap is from Ramos, who was still [illegible] at that time."


HE HAS radio and TV sets that date back from the 1950s.


ALSO a collector of vintage cars, Willie proudly stands beside his 1936 Chrysler Airstream.


VINYL, CD and cassette albums


BARONG Tagalog made for the late Ferdinand Marcos.


AS JOHN Lennon, with a Gretsch guitar, possibly George Harrison's

TROPHIES

"I'm most proud of my Honor Award, given by Cardinal Sin shortly before the EDSA Revolt in 1986. The Cardinal said I should accept it in behalf of the Filipino people. I'm also proud of my Gawad CCP trophy for Best TV Special. This is for the show 'Siyap Revolusyon: The Untold Story of People Power,' which I wrote, directed and starred in. The Best Novelty trophy from the Awit Awards Foundation is special, too. It's for my 'Mosaniti' album."

MUSIC ALBUMS

"I still have a copy of my first-ever album on vinyl, 'Willie's Way.' I also have a vinyl album of the late comedian Victor Borge. I got this in Raon, Manila. He inspired my work. It's too bad I missed [illegible] shows at the Philamlife Auditorium. Sammy Davis Jr. was my idol, too. I watched all of his shows here. I even asked him to sign my copy of his 'Impressions' album."

SCULPTURE

"I have busts of former presidents Estrada and Ramos and Dr. [illegible]. I also have a mold of my own face by the late sculptor Maestro Carvajal. I use them when I'm [illegible] with make-up. I also have a [illegible] from the artist Prodigan."

ANTIQUES

"I collect vintage microphones. I buy them from friends, like this 1950s one. It's fully functional, by the way. I also collect antique TV and radio models, mostly 1950s stuff. I'm proud of these wooden radios that I got from a collector friend. They used to be pre-[illegible]—no kidding. I also have a gramophone and a [illegible] from Vigan. I have a vintage Gretsch guitar. I'm not sure if this is the one that George Harrison supposedly left behind when The Beatles came here to the Philippines."

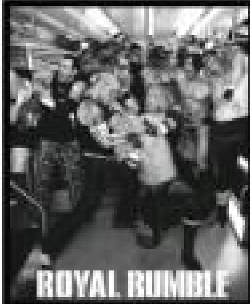
POSTERS

"I have huge posters of my shows featuring Linda Ronstadt, Roberta Flack, and The Village People. I also have old posters of my most memorable show at the Philippine Plaza, and of 'Mga [illegible],' my first stage play."


TWO of his own oil paintings



SPORTSTIME



ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

GALLERIA

1 NATIONAL TREASURE 2 - THE	6 I AM LEGEND
2 AMERICAN GANGSTER	7 DRAGON WAR
3 P.S. I LOVE YOU	8 indieSine: CONDO
4 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS	9 SWEENEY TODD
5 ALIEN vs. PREDATOR 2	10 THE HEARTBREAK KID



ERMITA

1 ALIEN vs. PREDATOR 2	6 AMERICAN GANGSTER
2 indieSine: SINL	7 SWEENEY TODD
3 THE HEARTBREAK KID	1 I AM LEGEND
4 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS	2 P.S. I LOVE YOU
5 DRAGON WAR	2 NATIONAL TREASURE 2

METRO EAST

1 AMERICAN GANGSTER	5 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS
2 DRAGON WAR	6 SWEENEY TODD
3 ALIEN vs. PREDATOR 2	7 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
4 P.S. I LOVE YOU	8 I AM LEGEND

NOVALICHES

1 I AM LEGEND
2 ALIEN vs. PREDATOR
3 AMERICAN GANGSTER
4 SWEENEY TODD
5 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
6 DRAGON WAR

PIONEER

1 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS
2 ALIEN vs. PREDATOR 2
3 P.S. I LOVE YOU
4 AMERICAN GANGSTER

STA. ROSA

1 ALIEN vs. PREDATOR 2
2 DESPERADAS
3 I AM LEGEND
4 NATIONAL TREASURE 2

LIPA

1 BEE MOVIE
2 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
3 ELIZABETH
4 HOOD OF HORROR

DASMARIÑAS

1 ALIEN vs. PREDATOR 2
2 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
3 DESPERADAS
4 I AM LEGEND

IMUS

1 ALIEN vs. PREDATOR
2 THE HEARTBREAK KID
3 I AM LEGEND
4 NATIONAL TREASURE 2

ANGELES

1 ALIEN vs. PREDATOR 2
2 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
3 THE HEARTBREAK KID
4 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS

TARLAC

1 I AM LEGEND
2 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
3 DESPERADAS

STARMILLS

1 ALIEN vs. PREDATOR 2	4 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
2 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS	5 DESPERADAS
3 I AM LEGEND	6 THE HEARTBREAK KID

BACOLOD

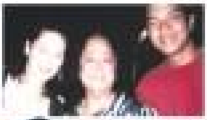
1 ALIEN vs. PREDATOR 2
2 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
3 BEE MOVIE / I AM LEGEND
4 DEATH PROOF
5 THE HEARTBREAK KID
6 CATACOMBS

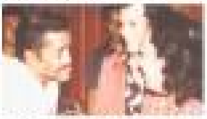
ILOILO

1 ALIEN vs. PREDATOR 2
2 ELIZABETH
3 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
4 I AM LEGEND
5 THE HEARTBREAK KID
6 HOOD of HORROR









ANGIE Magbanua (from left), clowning around with Christopher de Leon; with screen partners Kristine Hermosa and Jericho Rosales; with TV host Eddie Mercado, escorting Sammy Davis Jr.

Dream a little dream of *Angie*

By Rouzel San Diego Jr.
Photos by Rudy Esperas

TALENT MANAGER AND STAGE director Angie Magbanua loved singing, specifically Edith Piaf's "La Vie en Rose," friends fondly reminisced.

"During get-togethers, she'd sing a cappella," recalled Dulce, one of the pop artists whose careers Magbanua had shaped and steered.

Throughout the four-day wake at the [illegible] this week, the French ballad was played in the background.

Engineer Paul [illegible] recalled that his aunt, who passed on last Friday, Jan. 18, had been a showstopper. "Riding a gondola in Venice, she suddenly belted out La Vie En Rose," Paul reminisced. "The gondolier and tourists gave her a standing ovation."

"She also sang that song on [illegible] TV show 'Penthouse Live'," journalist Nestor Cuartero said. A former actress (under director [illegible]) and writer (for TV shows like Nora Aunor's "Superstar"), Magbanua later reinvented herself as talent manager, Cuartero added.

Among her first talents was Dulce, who reminisced: "Ours is a 30-year friendship. In 1979, she chaperoned me when I competed in Hong Kong for the World Song Festival." (George Canseco's "[illegible]" bagged the top prize.)

"She loved the musical 'The Fantasticks,'" [illegible] added.

"She was also fond of Cliff Richard and Tony Bennett," singer Ivy Violan noted.

Magbanua had worked with a veritable who's who in local entertainment, Cuartero pointed out.

All these "[illegible] ni Angie" or "[illegible]," gathered to send her off with a little night of music and memories.

Dulce sang "[illegible]" and "The Power of Your Love"; Violan, a duet of "The Prayer" with George Yapit; [illegible]; Bimbo Cerrudo, "[illegible]"; Marco Sison, "The Way You Look Tonight"; Ramon Raymundo, "If I Could"; Lance Raymundo, "Hope for Lonely Nights"; [illegible]; [illegible], "What [illegible] My Village"; and Beverly Salviejo, "[illegible]," [illegible].

Music [illegible] said Magbanua had [illegible] "grace under pressure."

Standing [illegible] agreed: "She had a way of persuading performers to do the impossible. She was gentle but persistent."

Magbanua staged the "[illegible]" series of concerts [illegible] by government officials [illegible], Jose Lim and Angelo Reyes.

At the wake, Reyes sang "What a Wonderful World" and Lim, "You Raise Me Up"; [illegible] was represented by wife [illegible].

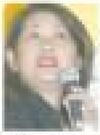
But more than her roles as director and manager, Magbanua's stint as teacher in [illegible] was the most significant, as far as former student-turned-filmmaker Jose Javier Reyes is concerned.

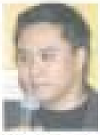
"I used to be shy; she brought me out of my shell," Reyes related in a phone interview.

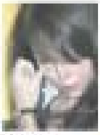
Reyes remembered her as a "force of nature" who loved singing Mama Cass Elliot's "Dream a Little Dream of Me."

Reyes confirmed that former students had come to her side during her illness (she was a diabetic; she underwent dialysis for a year and four months). "That's the enduring legacy of teachers. They will never be forgotten by the kids whose lives they touched."

Magbanua was buried last Wednesday.



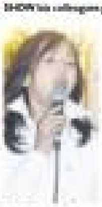




TESSIE Tomas RAMON Raymundo VERNO Varga



SHOW biz colleagues pay their last respects.





IVY Violan, above, and Dulce, right, sing for their friend.





Celebrity *restaurateurs*

ACTOR CESAR MONTANO, ABOVE LEFT, and singer Karylle, above right, have put some money where their hearts are (outside of the performing arts). They are proud owners of specialty restaurants—Bellissimo Ristorante for Cesar and Circle Café and Centerstage Family KTV for Karylle.

"I was inspired by my trips to Italy, where my sister lives," says Cesar, whose ristorante is on Scout Castor Street corner Tomas Morato Avenue in Quezon City. Bellissimo is managed by his daughter, Angela.

Karylle co-owns the cafe/KTV bar with boyfriend Dingdong Dantes. "I patiently waited for the right business to invest in," recounts the singer. "I did not want to waste hard-earned money on something that did not interest me." Circle Centerstage is on the second floor of the Central Building, also on Tomas Morato Avenue in Quezon City. Marinel R. Cruz



DISPLAY discontent British singer is a top Grammy contender this year.

Fans to Amy: Get help now

LONDON—AMY WINEHOUSE'S fans begged her on Tuesday to get help, after the troubled British singer was filmed purportedly smoking crack cocaine.

On its website, The Sun newspaper released footage of Winehouse, 24, in which she appears to inhale from a crack pipe. The soul vocalist, seated in front of one of her wedding pictures, claimed she had just taken "about six Valium" pills before lighting up.

The Sun alleged that Winehouse "took her after hit of the deadly drug after a 30-minute binge in which she snorted powdered ecstasy and cocaine." A spokesman for the star declined to comment.

The video was allegedly filmed after 2 a.m. last Friday at her east London home, hours before she attended a court hearing for husband Blake Fielder-Civil. He is awaiting trial on charges of assault and conspiracy to pervert the course of justice.

Forget hubby

Her record company, Universal, said: "We are deeply disappointed and upset by these latest revelations and are doing everything we can to offer Amy our full support in dealing with her problems."

On her official online fans' forum, people pleaded with the singer to change her ways. The footage showed "what we feared the most," wrote one contributor, 'spacecat.' Another fan, 'bibba,' urged Winehouse to get out of London and forget about her husband "and the druggies that flock around you. Kick 'em all."

The singer, who has earned six Grammy nominations, is due to court in Bergen, western Norway, on Feb. 19 after being arrested and fined for drug use and possession of marijuana. She was admitted to a hospital last year, reportedly after bingeing on drugs, and abandoned her recent British tour following a handful of shambolic concerts. AFP



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

ENTERTAINMENT

Last time we saw Heath Ledger

... he was really in high spirits, cheerful and chatty as we took this picture

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD



SMART
THE POWER TO LEAD

Tax breaks for producers via subtitling

LOCAL FILM PRODUCERS MAY get tax incentives if they subtitle their movies in English.

Cebu Rep. Eduardo Gullas said this was among the possibilities that Congress was exploring to ease multiple taxes levied on local producers, theater operators and moviegoers.

The legislator said English subtitles would help improve Filipinos' facility for the language.

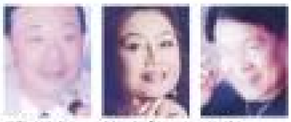
Gullas, an educator, is also the author of House Bill 305, which seeks to strengthen the English skills of Filipinos by reinstating the language as the medium of instruction.

He reported that the bill has been endorsed by 207 of the 240 members of the House of the Representatives.

"English [is] already ... part of our culture and identity," Gullas noted. "Local films are supposed to help promote national culture and identity."






JOSE MARI Chan · CARMEN Soriano · WILLIE Nep

3 enduring acts in 1 show

JOSE MARI CHAN, CARMEN Soriano and Willie Nepomuceno perform together in "Music and Memories," a fund-raising concert, tonight at the Centennial Hall of the Manila Hotel.

The show is for the benefit of various projects of the Philippine Chinese Charitable Association (PCCA), headed by its president and board chairman, Dr. James G. Dy.

Call 2407202 to 04 for details.

Show Time

Music video launch

The band Zelle launches its new music video, "Mula Mo Lang," tonight, 5 p.m. at Eastwood Central Plaza, Libis, Quezon City.

"Mula Mo Lang" is one of 11 tracks in Zelle's debut album "Search for Heaven" (Sony BMG).

The band will also have mall shows on Feb. 2 (SM Bacoor), Feb. 3 (SM Lucena), Feb. 8 (SM Dasmariñas) and Feb. 9 (SM Lipa).

Korean piano prodigy

Twenty-one-year-old Korean piano prodigy Hee Ah Lee plays in a one-night concert tomorrow at the Meralco Theater, Pasig City.

A congenital deformity that left Lee with only two fingers in each hand and stumped legs for her lower limbs didn't stop her from practicing 10 hours a day. She went on to win the highest prize in a national piano contest at age 7.

Call 9333333 to 35 for details.

Tonight

My Chemical Romance at Fort Bonifacio Open Field, Taguig.

The Jerks at 70s Bistro.

Kitchie at SM Centerpoint, Sta. Mesa.

Tomorrow

Asia One, 9:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. at Mojo Bar Bistro, Greenbelt 3, Makati.

Noel Cabangon at 70s Bistro.

Jan. 30

Johnny Alegre with Derek Monseigneur at Bella Rea, P. Guevarra St. San Juan.

















Violence in 80th Oscars

• 'Art reflects its time and ... we're living in dark, dire times'

• 'There's been a definite trend towards darker films in recent years and the nominations [show] that'

Some quirky notes



Nominated foreign films focus on war







A. LIPIN



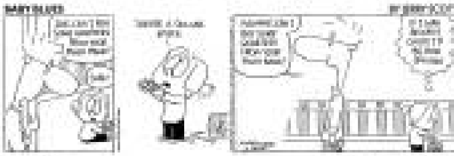
PUGAD BABOY



GARFIELD



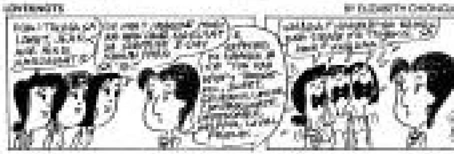
BABY BLUES



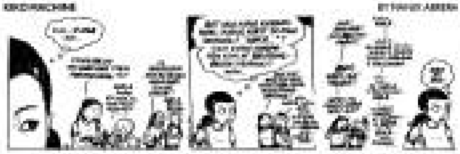
ATOMO AND WENDY



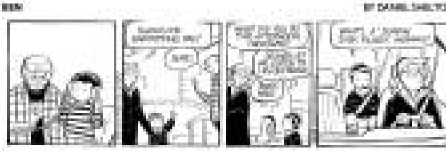
LOVEBIRDS



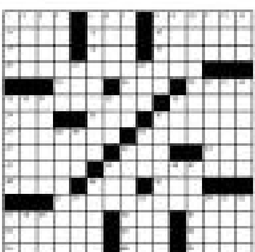
KIKO MACHINE

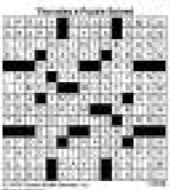


BEN



DAILY CROSSWORD





HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

1					6		5	3
							1	
		3	8			9		
3					2		4	7
				3				
5	4		9					8
		4			1	5		
	3							
7	6		4					2

Difficulty Level ★★★★

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU

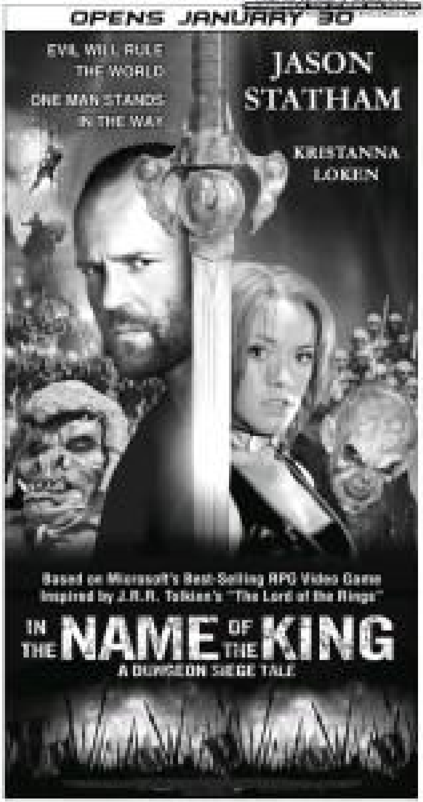
Answer to previous puzzle

FEEDBACK

'A' for 'Selda'

[illegible]





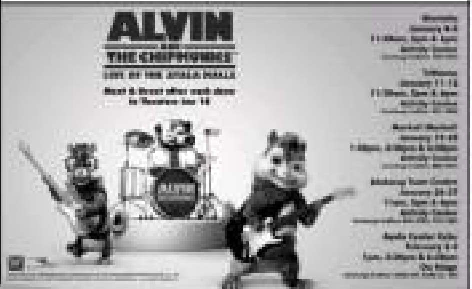
AT THE CINEMAS

Cinema							
GLORIETTA 1	1 AMERICAN GANGSTER	2 ALIEN VS PREDATOR 2	3 THE HEARTBREAK KID	4 NATIONAL TREASURE BOOK OF SECRETS			
GLORIETTA 4	1 NATIONAL TREASURE BOOK OF SECRETS	2 P.S. I LOVE YOU	3 SWEENEY TODD	4 I AM LEGEND	5 ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS	6 ALIEN VS PREDATOR 2	7 SWEENEY TODD
GREENBELT 1	1 AMERICAN GANGSTER	2 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR 2					
GREENBELT 3	1 AMERICAN GANGSTER	2 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR 2	3 P.S. I LOVE YOU	4 THE HEARTBREAK KID	5 NATIONAL TREASURE BOOK OF SECRETS		
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR 2	2 AMERICAN GANGSTER	3 P.S. I LOVE YOU	4 ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS	5 NATIONAL TREASURE BOOK OF SECRETS		
AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 ALIEN VS PREDATOR 2	2 AMERICAN GANGSTER	3 I COULD NEVER BE YOUR WOMAN	4 NATIONAL TREASURE BOOK OF SECRETS			
MARKET! MARKET!	1 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR 2	2 AMERICAN GANGSTER	3 P.S. I LOVE YOU	4 NATIONAL TREASURE BOOK OF SECRETS	5 ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS		
TRINOMA	1 NATIONAL TREASURE BOOK OF SECRETS	2 SWEENEY TODD	3 AMERICAN GANGSTER	4 P.S. I LOVE YOU	5 ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS	6 I AM LEGEND	7 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR 2

AT THE MALLS

Mall	Event
Glorietta	[illegible]
Greenbelt	WELCOME 2008 SALE January 11 to February 3
Alabang Town Center	Alvin & The Chipmunks Live at Alabang Town Center [illegible]
Ayala Center Cebu	WELCOME 2008 SALE January 11 to February 3
Market! Market!	WELCOME 2008 SALE January 11 to February 3
Cinemalaya	[illegible]
Ayala Museum	[illegible]
TriNoma	WELCOME 2008 SALE January 11 to February 3





Last time we saw Heath ...

